

Message Text

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73

ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 SPC-03 SAM-01

AID-20 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 AGR-20 SWF-02 COME-00 L-03 AF-10

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /191 R

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APPROVED BY IO - ROY D. MOREY

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NSC - JBUSHNELL (DRAFT)

EUR/RPE - JMCCARTHY (DRAFT)

CIEP - DHINTON (DRAFT)

IO/AGR - ROLSON (DRAFT)

STR - HWILLIAMS (DRAFT)

USDA - RBELL, DNOVOTNY (DRAFT) T

EASURY - HWORTHINGTON (DRAFT)

AID - AMAIR (DRAFT)

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EAGR

REF: STATE 017175

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF FOOD AID CONVENTION (FAC)

1. AS YOU KNOW MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED IN LONDON, FEB 20-22, TO REACH DECISION ON EXTENDING WHEAT TRADE CONVENTION AND FOOD AID CONVENTION, WHICH TOGETHER MAKE UP INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT, 1971. WE DO NOT EXPECT DIFFICULTY WITH WTC EXTENSION. HOWEVER, EC HAS NOT MADE DECISION ON FAC AND PROBABLY WILL NOT PRIOR TO OR AT MEETINGS.

2. USG SUPPORTS EXTENSION FAC AND WILL SO VOTE AT FEB 20 MEETING OF FOOD AID COMMITTEE. HOWEVER, SUBSEQUENT US SIGNING AND RATIFICATION PROTOCOL EXTENDING FAC WILL BE CONTINGENT ON EC REMAINING A PARTY. ALSO, FAILURE OF EC TO IMPROVE PRESENT PERFORMANCE IN MEETING COMMITMENTS UNDER FAC WOULD PROMPT CAREFUL USG RECONSIDERATION OF SUPPORT FOR FAC RENEWAL. (SEE SEPTTEL BEING TRANSMITTED TO FAC COUNTRY POSTS AND USUN.)

3. REFTTEL, BEING REPEATED TO USUN, SENT TO ALL POSTS IN COUNTRIES PARTY TO INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT OR WHICH RECEIVED EC FOOD AID 1972/73, MADE FOLLOWING POINTS;
A) MULTILATERAL COMMITMENT BY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, WHETHER GRAIN IMPORTERS OR EXPORTERS TO CONTRIBUTE FOOD ASSISTANCE

IN GRAINS IS IMPORTANT PRINCIPLE WHICH SHOULD BE PRESERVED; B) ALLOWING FAC TO EXPIRE WHILE WORLD GRAIN SUPPLIES STILL TIGHT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY UNFORTUNATE AND WOULD HAVE UNDESIRABLE PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT ON PREPARATIONS FOR WFC, AND ON POSITION DEVELOPED NATIONS AT THAT CONFERENCE; C) FOOD AID WILL BE MAJOR TOPIC AT WFC AND WE BELIEVE IT UNWISE TO ABANDON FUNCTIONING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MECHANISM PRIOR TO DISCUSSION THAT FORUM.

4. IN BOTH SEPTTEL AND REFTTEL WE ASK ADDRESSEES TO MAKE APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIONS TO HOST GOVERNMENTS. WE BELIEVE IT ALSO DESIRABLE MAKE STATEMENT ON FAC EXTENSION DURING COURSE OF FIRST PREPCOM. AT YOUR DISCRETION THIS COULD BE IN PREPCOM MEETING (WHICH WE BELIEVE PREFERABLE) OR, LESS FORMALLY, OUTSIDE.

5. REFTTEL GIVES SOME BACKGROUND TO FAC EXTENSION. WE BELIEVE MAJOR POINT SHOULD BE THAT AT TIME INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS INITIATING PREPARATIONS FOR WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE, WE SHOULD NOT BE GOING BACKWARDS IN OTHER ASPECTS SAME PROBLEM AND PERHAPS TERMINATING THE PRINCIPAL MULTILATERAL FOOD AID INSTRUMENT. YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT US SUPPORTS FAC EXTENSION AND, UNLESS YOU PERCEIVE REASONS AGAINST, THAT EC IS PRINCIPAL, INDEED ONLY, OBSTACLE TO EXTENSION. KISSINGER

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